

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/932,713

Examiner

Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

Applicant(s)

JUN ET AL.

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/17/01.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,5-24,26 and 27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

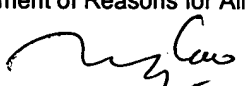
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Cao (Kevin) Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with *Lew Edward V. Macapagal* on 05/27/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 17 (Currently Amended) A method for skimming video data ~~using a structure information index~~, wherein the video data comprises a plurality of scenes ~~and each scene comprises a plurality of shots, and the structure information index corresponds to structure information of each shot, the method~~ comprising the steps of:

obtaining a plurality of shots for each scene using a shot segmentation and forming a structure information index corresponding to each shot;

selecting at least one shot from each scene based on the structure information index, wherein when shots are being selected from each scene, selection of multiple shots having similar properties is minimized;

selecting at least one section from the selected shot; and reproducing selected sections from each scene to skim the video data.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 3, 5-24, and 26-27 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Applicant has claimed uniquely distinct features in the instant invention which are not found in the prior art either singularly or in combination a method for skimming video data, wherein the video data comprises a plurality of scenes, the method comprising obtaining a plurality of shots for each scene using a shot segmentation and forming a structure information index corresponding to each shot; selecting at least one shot from each scene based on the structure information index, wherein when shots are being selected from each scene, selection of multiple shots having similar properties is minimized; selecting at least one section from the selected shot; and reproducing selected sections from each scene to skim the video data. These features are not found or suggested in the prior art.

The present invention is directed to obtaining a plurality of shots for each scene using a shot segmentation and forming a structure information index corresponding to each shot; selecting at least one shot from each scene based on the structure information index, wherein when shots are being selected from each scene, selection of multiple shots having similar properties is minimized; selecting at least one section from the selected shot; and reproducing selected sections from each scene to skim the video data. Each independent claim is identified "obtaining a plurality of shots for each scene using a shot segmentation and forming a structure information index corresponding to each shot; selecting at least one shot from each scene based on the structure information index, wherein when shots are being selected from each scene,

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selection of multiple shots having similar properties is minimized. The closest prior arts Dakss and Ratakonda discloses a conventional process which requires grouping the shots with similar objects together and grouping frames in a video into hierarchical structure; either singularly or in combination fail to anticipate or render the above underline limitations obvious.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

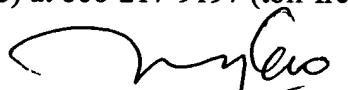
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)272-4053. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeza can be reached on (571)272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Cao (Kevin) Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2173

05/27/05